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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/72 of 10 December 1976, in which it referred the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques to all States for their consideration, signature and ratification and expressed the hope for the widest possible adherence to the Convention,

Recalling also its resolution 46/36 A of 6 December 1991, in which it noted that a majority of States parties to the Convention had expressed their wish to convene the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention in September 1992,

Welcoming the fact that States parties to the Convention met at Geneva from 14 to 18 September 1992 to review the operation of the Convention, with a view to ensuring that its purposes and provisions were being realized,

Having considered the Final Document of the Second Review Conference,

Noting with satisfaction that the Review Conference confirmed that the obligations assumed under article I of the Convention had been faithfully observed by the States parties,

Noting also that the Review Conference recognized the continuing importance of the Convention and its objectives, and the common interest of mankind in maintaining its effectiveness in prohibiting the use of environmental modification techniques as a means of war,

Emphasizing that in its Final Declaration the Review Conference reaffirmed its belief that universal adherence to the Convention would enhance international peace and security,

Bearing in mind that the States parties to the Convention reaffirmed their strong common interest in preventing the use of environmental modification techniques for military or any other hostile purposes, their strong support for the Convention, their continued dedication to its principles and objectives and their commitment to implement effectively its provisions,

1. Notes the assessment by the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques that the Convention has been effective in preventing military or any other hostile use of any environmental modification techniques between States parties, and that its provisions need to be kept under continuing review and examination in order to ensure their global effectiveness;

2. Welcomes the reaffirmation of the Review Conference of support for article II and for the definition therein of the term "environmental modification techniques", which States parties to the Convention agree that, taken together with the Understandings relating to Articles I and II, covers military or any other hostile use of any environmental modification techniques having widespread, long-lasting or severe effects as the means of destruction, damage or injury to any State party by another State party;

3. Notes with satisfaction the confirmation by the Review Conference that the military or any other hostile use of herbicides as an environmental modification technique in the meaning of article II is a method of warfare prohibited by article I if such use of herbicides upsets the ecological balance of a region, thus causing widespread, long-lasting or severe effects as the means of destruction, damage or injury to any other State party;

4. Calls upon all States to refrain from military or any other hostile use of any environmental modification techniques;

5. Urges signatory States to ratify the Convention without delay;

6. Invites and encourages those States which have not signed the Convention to become party to it as soon as possible;

7. Welcomes the reaffirmation, under article V, of the undertaking of all States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objectives of, or in the application of the provisions of, the Convention;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to assist States parties in promoting the universality of the Convention, including through the provision of appropriate advice on procedures.